REMARKS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks.

It is respectfully pointed out that the present invention was commonly owned at the time this invention was made. This is in response to paragraph 1 on Page 2 of the Office Action.

On Page 3 of the Office Action, the Patent Examiner has rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Osakabe et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,448,562)* in view of *Tanaka et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,631,850)*.

The present invention relates to a system for transmitting data in a serial bidirectional bus with a control device comprising a send and receiving unit for data fields combined into a data frame, and with bus subscribers that comprise an evaluation circuit for reading in and reading out data fields in data frames, with at least the bus subscriber at the bus end opposite of the control device comprising a send device for a

data frame.

The present invention has as an object to provide a system for data transmission in a serial bidirectional bus of the kind mentioned above in such a way that the system is characterized not only by the simplicity of the data transmission but also by its low constructional complexity. A high data transmission rate is also to be ensured.

This object is achieved by the present invention in such a way that at least the bus subscriber at the end of the bus comprises a control stage which is activated by a received data frame and which triggers the send device depending on the receipt of a data frame within the terms of the transmission of a data frame for at least the data fields of the bus subscribers.

More particularly, each bus subscriber 2, 3, and 4 comprises a control stage 13 for a send device 12 for sending a data frame 11 for the own data fields and the data fields of the preceding bus subscribers, so that a data transmission is still at least partly possible during a failure of a bus subscriber 3 or 4. In such a case, the bus subscriber 2 or 3 situated directly in front

of the failed bus subscriber 3 and 4 will send a respective data frame to the control device 1.

Specifically, the present direction is directed to a system for transmitting data in a serial bidirectional bus with a control device comprising a send and receiving unit for data fields combined into a data frame, and with bus subscribers connected in series which comprise an evaluation circuit for reading in and reading out data fields in data frames, with at least the bus subscriber at the bus end opposite of the control device comprising a send device for a data frame, wherein at least the bus subscriber (4) at the end of the bus comprises a control stage (13) which is activated by a received data frame (6) sent by the control device (1) and triggers the send device (12) depending on the receipt of a data frame (6) for sending a data frame (11) in the direction of the control device (1) whereas the sent data frame (11) contains at least data fields (14, 15, 16) for all bus subscribers (2, 3, 4) and said data frame (11) is handed over from one bus subscriber to the next bus subscriber.

Support for the above amendments can be found in paragraph

(0115) and in FIGS. 1 and 2 of *US 2007/0008908 A1*. Especially from the figures it is apparent that a data frame is handed over from one bus subscriber to the next one.

Based on the above amendments, the present invention clearly distinguishes over the teachings of *Osakabe* and *Tanaka*.

In the Final Office Action the Patent Examiner has contended that the main difference between *Osakabe* or *Tanaka* and the present invention (i.e. that an inventive data frame contains data fields of/for all bus subscribers) is not clearly recited in the claims. Therefore, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite that the sent data frame (11) contains at least data fields (14, 15, 16) for all bus subscribers (2, 3, 4) and this data frame (11) is handed over from one bus subscriber to the next bus subscriber.

In conclusion, the present invention, and all the claims, are firmly believed to be patentable over all the prior art applied by the Patent Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 103. Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

A prompt notification of allowability is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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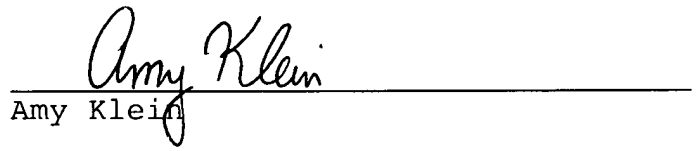

Amy Klein

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